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Arizonans assured they'll get their tax refunds

Reacting to reports from California and Kansas about problems with tax refund checks, Arizona State Treasurer Dean Martin said Wednesday that "Arizona taxpayers can rest assured if you are owed and receive a refund from the Arizona Department of Revenue, the check will be good."

Martin's statements came after California's treasurer and Kansas' budget office delayed or suspended refund checks this year because of budget problems and their failures to pass revised 2009 budgets. This prompted questions since Arizona faces one of the largest budget deficits in the nation.

Martin said all Arizona refunds issued by the Department of Revenue will be paid.

"This is why I started warning everyone about our fiscal problems, so there would be time for action to prevent these types of drastic efforts from being needed," Martin said.

"Fortunately, our Legislature and new Governor acted quickly in a special session to fix the 2009 budget deficit. Their quick action has allowed us to plan for the rest of this year."

Martin added, "While the economy may still indeed worsen, we will do what it takes to make sure we have the financial resources to honor refund checks issued to you by the Department of Revenue."

The Arizona State Treasurer's Office is the bank for state government, and pays all warrants (checks) issued by state agencies. The Arizona Department of Revenue is a separate executive agency responsible for the collection of taxes and payment of refunds. Any warrant (check) issued by the Department of Revenue (including refunds) will be paid by the State Treasurer.

Information from: KTAR.com, <http://www.KTAR.com>